



The Scuttlebutt Newsletter
P.O. Box 4561
Glen Allen, VA 23058-4561
June 2018



JAMES M. SLAY DETACHMENT MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MEETING

**Virginia Society of CPA's
4309 Cox Rd, Glen Allen VA
I-64 Exit I78B**

**The Fourth Saturday Of Each Month
Next Meeting 23 June 2018
0830 Breakfast - 0900 Meeting
www.richmondmarines.net
(804) 417-4569**



Marine Corps Commandant General Neller expressed his appreciation with Slay Detachment member Herb Delbridge for his Purple Heart Truck and his service to Veterans.

Lieutenant Colonel Morina D. Foster, USMC New Commanding Officer Marine Detachment Ft. Lee

Lt. Col. Foster took command on 1 June 2018. She has an outstanding Marine Corps Career that we anticipate will continue to make the Detachment excel in it's mission. Lt. Col. Foster started her career graduating from boot camp at Paris Island , January 15, 1984.

She achieved the ranks of Corporal 1988 and Sergeant in 1991. In 1996 Lt. Col, Foster was promoted to Staff Sergeant and was hand selected as an instructor at the Sergeant's Course, 29 Palms California. While assigned there Lt. Col, Foster made time to attend National University and received her Associates Degree and pursued her Bachelor's Degree in Health Care Management. She was accepted by the Meritorious Commissioning Program and accepted to attend OCS in the Fall of 1999.

Her many duty assignments track her career through many MOS overlaps and appropriate recognition, awards and promotions.

Slay Detachment members Joe Wadle, Ron Echols, Kevin O'Connor and Bill Jeffress attended the Change of Command Ceremony on June 1st. Lt. Col. Foster made a point of meeting us, speaking at length and expressing her expectations to work with and interact with the MCL. We all agreed that she was very positive, friendly and professional. We expect a great relationship with Ft. Lee to continue under her command.

James M. Slay
Detachment Marine
Corps League

Richmond, Virginia

www.richmondmarines.net

The Scuttlebutt

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2018

- **Joe Vass**
Commandant
- **Mark Moore**
Sr Vice Commandant
- **Phil Hebner**
Jr Vice Commandant
- **Bruce Russell**
Adjutant
- **Dave Schneider**
Judge Advocate
- **Jim Ralls** Chaplain
- **Rick Barden**
Sergeant at Arms
- **Fred Marotta**
Paymaster
- **Spike Williamson**
Quartermaster
- **Rich Schollman**
Web Sergeant
- **Kevin O'Connor**
Scuttlebutt Newsletter
Editor
oonorsix@verizon.net

Marines Across Generations

.... is very much what the Marine Corps League is all about. The traditions, the camaraderie the continuity of training and experience.

Our interaction with the Marine Detachment at Ft. Lee is part of that. In the last month we had four Slay members participate in the Change of Command Ceremony at Ft. Lee. With CMC Gen Neller at HHS in May some of those young Marines from Ft. Lee were selected to sit and have lunch with him and three WWII Marines. Talk about bridging generations and experience. Wow! At the June HHS I sat next to a PFC named Alvarez. I told him about an Alvarez I traveled with from NY in 1967 to Paris Island who became one of my best buddies in boot camp.

At the HHS Luncheon in June those young Marines had a unique opportunity to hear four Marine Combat Veterans from Vietnam relate their worst day "in Nam". Remarkable true life stories told with emotion and humor—but with a "bottom line", Marines can count on each other and fully expect this current generation to be the same.

On July 4th we expect to have up to 20 Marines, staff and trainees, from Ft. Lee running in the Patriots 5K. For years we have invited them to send trainees to run for free to celebrate The Corps and The 4th. (That was Chip Houston's idea).

Once a Marine, Always a Marine!

On a sad note, The Slay Detachment, Marine Corps League offers it's thoughts and prayers for the family of Lt. Co. Tom Gilley. Lt. Col. Gilley, former CO at Ft. Lee died suddenly and too young in April.
 Semper Fidelis

MINUTES
JAMES M. SLAY DETACHMENT
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
26 MAY 2018



0900 Call to Order

Commandant Vass declared the meeting open. Ordering the securing of quarters, posting of colors, pledge of allegiance and the opening prayer.

Roll Call of Officers

All Officers were present.

Introduction of Guests

There were two guests – Jerry Howard and Bill Marcel. Both were Marines and are interested in joining the League.

Applications for New Members

None

Committee Reports

Honor Guard - Spike Williamson

Honor Guard has been busy with burial details. Two HG details will be needed on Memorial Day; one detail at Goochland CH and one at the Virginia War Memorial. Commandant Vass reported there has been no updates on the detachments request for 5 rifles.

USO - Lee Smith

Need volunteers. Staying very busy. Lee is a member of the Dignified Transfer Team; the Team was recently named the "USO Volunteer of the Quarter".

McGuire VA – Cecil McNair

Construction continues the parking deck; anticipated to be completed on 15 June..

Henrico MCJROTC Programs - Cecil McNair

The Henrico high schools involved in the MCJROTC Program need to improve their communication with this Detachment as related to award recipients and award ceremonies. A letter from the Detachment will be sent to the respective schools.

Goochland MCJROTC Program - Joe Wadle

The May 18th Award Ceremony/Cadet Change of Command was changed to May 21st at the last minute. The ceremony was will attended by Detachment members.

. Range Day - Lou Seigel

17 members attended Range Day in May. Next Range Day is 4 June.

Fort Lee - Ron Echols

There will be a Change of Command ceremony on 1 June 2018.

Military Order of Devil Dogs - Lou Seigel

No Growl today.

There will be an outing to Petersburg on 5 June.

Houston - Holicky - Sitter Luncheon - Joe Wadle

Marine Commandant Neller was guest speaker at the May luncheon. This was the first sitting Marine Corps Commandant to speak at HHS.

June meeting will feature four infantry combat veterans sharing their most memorable day in Vietnam.

July luncheon will feature Col. John Hoffman (Author, Chesty) as the guest speaker.

Virginia War Memorial - Bruce Steele

Monday, 28 May at 1000 will be the Memorial Day Ceremony and Wreath Presentation. Bruce Steele and John Thomas will present the wreath.

Any Detachment members attending are asked to wear their red MCL covers.

Care Packages - Herb Delbridge

No names at present. Purple Heart Truck will participate in the Sandston Parade on 28 May. If any members want to ride, meet at the Sandston Post Office.

Quartermaster – Spike Williamson

The stock of Detachment Challenge Coins has recently sold out. A motion was made to buy 50 new Challenge Coins. Motion was seconded and the motion was passed by voice vote.

Fund Raising – Fred Marotta

The Detachment will have a recruiting table at the Richmond Gun Show in September. We will also set up a tent at the Greentops show in October; looking to possibly raffle off a weapon at that show.

Past State Commandant – Jim Barrett

The Detachment will host the State Department Fall Conference on Oct 12-13 in Ashland.

There will be an auction of MC/MCL memorabilia. The Detachment will receive \$1000 for hosting this Conference. It is recommended that Mission BBQ cater the Conference.

The Virginia Department Marine of the Year is Bruce Steeley.

Reports of Officers**Commandant – Joe Vass**

No report

Senior Vice Commandant – Mark Moore

No Report

Junior Vice Commandant – Phil Hebner

No Report

Adjutant – Bruce Russell

Minutes from last meeting were approved as published in the Scuttlebutt Newsletter and posted via email.

Paymaster – Fred Marotta

National is now up to date with the dues transmittals. Eleven transmittals received from National in last two weeks.

Handed out membership pins to new members and Life member pins.

Checking account balance was \$15,064 as of 24 May.

Chaplain – Jim Ralls

Ron Schuman had a brief relapse, but is recovering now.

Russell Wyatt is doing well and recovering at home.

Robin Kennedy has returned to work.

Ron Kemp has been diagnosed with skin cancer and will undergo chemo treatments.

Newsletter Editor – Kevin O'Connor

He will ask Bill Parrish to get photos of the Commandant speaking at the May HHS luncheon.

The location of the Patriot's 5k race on 4 July has changed to the Midlothian ACAC. Volunteers should plan to be there by 0700 on race day.

Village Bank has signed up to be a Gold Sponsor. Still looking for a Title Sponsor.

A motion was made and approved to spend up to \$2000 for t-shirts and other expenses for the Patriot's 5k Race.

Historian – Rich VanDamme

Will start creating a history of what has gone on in the Detachment using minutes, notes, etc.

Old Business

The challenge coin proposal from the last meeting was further discussed. It was decided that the total membership of the Detachment should be made aware of the challenge coin proposal and when it will become effective.

New challenge coins will be ordered.

New Business

Jim Barrett swore in two new state department officers that are members of our detachment. Mark Moore is the new State Sergeant-at-Arms and Dave Schneider is the new State Judge Advocate.

Good of the Order**Announcements**

PBS documentary of McGuire Hospital's trauma unit will be aired nationally on Sunday, 27 May at 1600.

Concert at Henrico Theater at 1930 on 18 June. Call theater for seat reservation.

Participation in Wreaths Across America was discussed.

Sponsorship of a young man to attend Boys State was discussed.

The new By-Laws adopted earlier this year omitted the entire section dealing with the Honor Guard. The omitted section has been added back into our By-Laws.

Closing Ceremony By order of the Commandant the Colors were retired, the Chaplain gave the closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned until Saturday, 23 June 2018 at 0900.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce Russell, Adjutant





**11th Annual Patriots 5K
Run/Walk
July 4, 2018
0830**

New location: ACAC Midlothian

The Slay Detachment annual fundraiser supports active military units in Virginia as well as multiple Veterans organizations.

We need about a dozen volunteers from approximately 7:30 to 9:30 to act as course marshals, registration and other organizational help. We also need runners and walkers. So encourage family, friends and neighbors to participate. The course is on the flat easy roads through a local neighborhood. There are reduced entry fees for Active and Reserve Military and for members of the ACAC clubs.

Contact: Kevin O'Connor 804-387-1526 - oconnorsix@verizon.net

Event sign up and information

<https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Midlothian/Patriots>

**Houston-Holicky-Sitter Luncheon 12 June 2018
Joe Washington, Randy Abernathy, Bill Akers and Ron Echols
Incredible!**

The reviews are in and everyone agrees—It was one of, if not the best luncheon presentations we have ever had. We've had famous Marines, we've had past and, of course, current CMC's. We've had wonderful video and projection presentations, but these four men knocked it "out of the park".

Seriousness, tense stories but also a lot of humor, much of it self-deprecating, made us all remember what it means to be Marines and to be part of the Marine Team.

It was especially great for the Marines from Ft. Lee, both staff and trainees, to hear, first hand, combat experiences from about 50 years ago.

Well Done, Marines! Semper Fi!

Houston-Holicky-Sitter Luncheon
10 July 2018
John W. Mountcastle
Brigadier General, U.S. Army (Retired)

John W. (Jack) Mountcastle is from Richmond, VA. Graduating from the Virginia Military Institute in 1965, he began serving as an Army officer in 1966. He commanded tank units at all levels from platoon through armored brigade and served in the USA, Vietnam, and Germany. During the 1970s, Jack earned an MA and PhD from Duke University and taught Military History at West Point. Promoted to Brigadier General in 1994, he assumed the duties of the Army Chief of Military History in Washington, D.C. Jack returned to Richmond upon retiring from the Army in 1998.



Currently, he teaches Civil War history courses at the University of Richmond and lectures at the Virginia Historical Society. He has led numerous tours of World War II battle areas in Europe continues to lead historical tours of Civil War sites.

He will discuss his two Nam tours and his overall perspectives on the Viet Nam War.



U.S. Marine Corps 2nd Lt. Michael Francica, with Combat Logistics Battalion 8, Combat Logistics Regiment 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, pilots an InstantEye quadcopter during an operations check for Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory as part of Integrated Training Exercise 3-18 on Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., April. 29. (Lance Cpl. Scott Jenkins/ Marine Corps)

Houston-Holicky-Sitter Luncheon

MC: Col. Bill Parrish, USMC Ret.

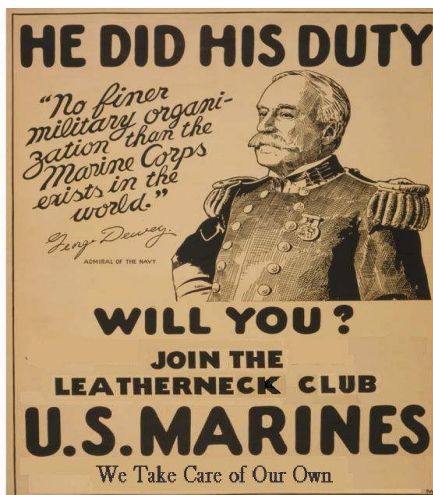


The Holicky-Sitter Luncheon was started to help support the local Active Duty Marines serving in the Richmond Area and Fort Lee. Our goal is the support of the local Marine Reserve Unit, the Marine Detachment at Fort Lee, Marine Corps Recruiters and the Marines assigned to Defense General Supply Center. We are also now taking a very active roll in working with and supporting the families of the wounded from all the services at McGuire Veterans Hospital.

Uniform: Whatever you want to wear.
 Cost: **The chow: Optional but fixed Price Buffet around \$10.00**
 Date: Tuesday 10 July 2018 (The second Tuesday of every month)
 Speaker: Brig. Gen. Jack Mountcastle, US Army Ret. (bio page 7)
 Chow: 1130 - Speaker - 1210 - Secure at 1245.
 Where: **"IMPORTANT" Location — Publix (Formerly Martins)
 2250 John Rolfe Parkway, Henrico, VA 23233**

2018 LEATHERNECK CLUB

Bill Akers
 Jim Barrett
 John Beall
 Mike Boudreau
 Herb Delbridge
 Bob Gilliam
 Tim Godbey
 Clint Harrington
 Bob Hartley
 Phil Hebner
 Houston Holicky Sitter
 Luncheon Group
 Bill Jeffress
 Ed Kemp
 Greg Lee
 Annebel Lewis
 Blaine Mason
 Tom Milhausen



Kevin O'Connor
 John O'Connor
 Wes Pruitt
 Jim Ralls
 David Schneider
 Lou Seigel
 Fred Smith
 Bruce Steeley
 David Taylor
 John Thomas
 Richard VanDamme
 Joe Wadle
 Bill Wagner
 Joe Washington
 Spike Williamson
 Richard Zimmer

In Memoriam

Chip Houston Pat O'Hare Bill Lyell
 Tom Burton Fred Neurohr



Begin or renew your Leatherneck Club Membership/Support for 2018. For a contribution of \$100 you will support our standard monthly donation to: , Virginia Dept. of Veterans and Family Services Project, USMC Wounded Warriors Project, USO Gift Cards in Richmond, and the Slay Det. Ladies Auxiliary.
 Contact Det. Paymaster Fred Marotta at : fredmarotta@gmail.com